Surah 70 Surah Ma'aarij

THE STAIRCASE

THE LINK BETWEEN *SURAH MA'AARIJ* AND *SURAH HAAQA*

After *Surah Haaqa* warned the people who rejected the belief that Allaah is the Only source of blessings, it was necessary for the people take heed and to believe in the oneness of Allaah and in the Prophethood of Rasulullaah ﷺ. However, they adopted an obstinate stance and instead of asking for Allaah's mercy and forgiveness, they insolently asked for Allaah's punishment to afflict them, they failed to notice that the advent of punishment is imminent and inevitable.

A SUMMARY OF THE *SURAH*

Surah Ma'aarij contains the following:

* Reproach.
* Warning of punishment in the *Aakhirah.*
* Glad tidings in the *Aakhirah.*

سُوْرَةُ الْمَعَارِجِ مَكِّيَّةٌ وَّهِيَ اَرْبَعٌ وَّاَرْبَعُوْنَ اٰيَةً وَّفِيْهَا رُكُوْعَانِ

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ ○

In the name of Allaah, the Most Compassionate the Most Merciful

سَاَلَ سَآئِلٌۢ بِعَذَابٍ وَّاقِعٍ ۙ﴿۱﴾

1. An enquirer asks *(sarcastically)* **about an imminent punishment...**

لِّلْكٰفِرِيْنَ لَيْسَ لَهٗ دَافِعٌ ۙ﴿۲﴾

2. ...that will afflict the Kaafiroon, which cannot be averted...

مِّنَ اللّٰهِ ذِي الْمَعَارِجِ ؕ﴿۳﴾

3. ...and is from Allaah, the Controller of the staircase *(the skies, which the angels constantly ascend as they convey people's actions and instructions to and from Allaah)*.

تَعْرُجُ الْمَلٰٓئِكَةُ وَالرُّوْحُ اِلَيْهِ فِيْ يَوْمٍ كَانَ مِقْدَارُهٗ خَمْسِيْنَ اَلْفَ سَنَةٍ ۚ﴿۴﴾

4. The angels and souls *(of the dead)* **ascend to Him.** *(This punishment that the people inquire about will take place)* **On a day** *(the Day of Qiyaamah)*, **the duration of which shall be** *(equal to)* **fifty thousand years** *(of this world)*.

فَاصْبِرْ صَبْرًا جَمِيْلًا ۝﴿۵﴾

5. So exercise patience in a most beautiful manner *(without complaining about the attitude of the Kuffaar and without asking for them to be punished because their punishment is imminent, either in this world or in the Aakhirah)*.

اِنَّهُمْ يَرَوْنَهٗ بَعِيْدًا ۙ﴿۶﴾

6. Verily they see it *(Qiyaamah as)* **being far off** *(because they do not want to believe in it)*...

وَّنَرٰىهُ قَرِيْبًا ؕ﴿۷﴾

7. ...but We see it being nearby *(because its occurrence is certain)*.

يَوْمَ تَكُوْنُ السَّمَآءُ كَالْمُهْلِ ۙ﴿۸﴾

8. *(The Day of Qiyaamah will be)* **The day when the sky will become** *(black)* **like the dirty residue of oil...**

وَتَكُوْنُ الْجِبَالُ كَالْعِهْنِ ۙ﴿۹﴾

9. ...and the mountains *(because of their variety of colours)* **will become like coloured wool** *(tossed about in the air just as flakes of wool are tossed through the air)*.

وَلَا يَسْـَٔلُ حَمِيْمٌ حَمِيْمًا ۖ﴿۱۰﴾

10. *(On the Day of Qiyaamah,)* **No friend will ask about** *(the welfare of)* **another friend** *(because everyone will be worried about themselves only)*...

يُّبَصَّرُوْنَهُمْ ؕ يَوَدُّ الْمُجْرِمُ لَوْ يَفْتَدِيْ مِنْ عَذَابِ يَوْمِئِذٍۭ بِبَنِيْهِ ۙ﴿۱۱﴾

11. ...even though they will be shown each other. The sinner will wish that as ransom for *(escaping)* **the punishment of that day he could offer his sons...**

وَصَاحِبَتِهٖ وَاَخِيْهِ ۙ﴿۱۲﴾

12. ...his wife, his brother...

وَفَصِيْلَتِهِ الَّتِيْ تُـْٔوِيْهِ ۙ﴿۱۳﴾

13. ...his tribe *(family)* **with whom he lived...**

وَمَنْ فِي الْاَرْضِ جَمِيْعًا ۙ ثُمَّ يُنْجِيْهِ ۙ﴿۱۴﴾

14. ...and everyone on earth so that he may be saved.

كَلَّا ؕ اِنَّهَا لَظٰى ۙ﴿۱۵﴾

15. This will never be! *(No ransom will be accepted and none will be made to suffer for another.)* **The Fire shall certainly be flaming...**

نَزَّاعَةً لِّلشَّوٰى ۖ﴿۱۶﴾

16. ...*(so hot that it will be capable of easily)* **tearing the scalp** *(burning up the brains).*

تَدْعُوْا مَنْ اَدْبَرَ وَتَوَلّٰى ﴿١٧﴾

17. It *(Jahannam)* **will call the one who turned away** *(from Towheed)* **and was averse** *(to it)*...

وَجَمَعَ فَاَوْعٰى ﴿١٨﴾

18. ...*(and)* **who amassed wealth and tended it** *(hoarded it without fulfilling the duties owed to Allaah)*.

اِنَّ الْاِنْسَانَ خُلِقَ هَلُوْعًا ﴿١٩﴾

19. Verily man has been created anxious *(hasty/impatient/restless)*.

اِذَا مَسَّهُ الشَّرُّ جَزُوْعًا ﴿٢٠﴾

20. When difficulty afflicts him, he panics *(loses his composure and becomes impatient)*...

وَّاِذَا مَسَّهُ الْخَيْرُ مَنُوْعًا ﴿٢١﴾

21. ...and when he experiences good fortune, he becomes miserly *(too scared to lose what he has)*.

اِلَّا الْمُصَلِّيْنَ ﴿٢٢﴾

22. *(This is the condition of all people)* **Except those** *(Mu'mineen)* **who perform salaah** *(meticulously)*...

الَّذِيْنَ هُمْ عَلٰى صَلَاتِهِمْ دَآئِمُوْنَ ﴿٢٣﴾

23. ...those who are constant *(regular)* **in their salaah...**

وَالَّذِيْنَ فِيْٓ اَمْوَالِهِمْ حَقٌّ مَّعْلُوْمٌ ﴿٢٤﴾

24. ... and who have a stipulated right *(fixed a share)* **in their wealth...**

لِّلسَّآئِلِ وَالْمَحْرُوْمِ ﴿٢٥﴾

25. ...for the beggar and the destitute *(the poor)*.

وَالَّذِيْنَ يُصَدِّقُوْنَ بِيَوْمِ الدِّيْنِ ﴿٢٦﴾

26. *(They are)* **Those who believe in the truth of the day of reckoning...**

وَالَّذِيْنَ هُمْ مِّنْ عَذَابِ رَبِّهِمْ مُّشْفِقُوْنَ ﴿٢٧﴾

27. ...and who fear the punishment of their Rabb.

اِنَّ عَذَابَ رَبِّهِمْ غَيْرُ مَاْمُوْنٍ ﴿٢٨﴾

28. Indeed the punishment of their Rabb is not something that one can avoid.

وَالَّذِيْنَ هُمْ لِفُرُوْجِهِمْ حٰفِظُوْنَ ﴿٢٩﴾

29. *(These people are)* **Those who guard their private parts** *(chastity from adultery and fornication)*...

اِلَّا عَلٰٓى اَزْوَاجِهِمْ اَوْ مَا مَلَكَتْ اَيْمَانُهُمْ فَاِنَّهُمْ غَيْرُ مَلُوْمِيْنَ ﴿٣٠﴾

30. ...*(who do not engage in sexual activity)* **except when it comes to their spouses** *(to whom they are married)* **and the slave women whom they own. They will surely not be blamed for** *(cohabiting with)* **them.**

فَمَنِ ابْتَغٰى وَرَآءَ ذٰلِكَ فَاُولٰٓئِكَ هُمُ الْعٰدُوْنَ ﴿٣١﴾

31. Whoever seeks more *(sexual activity)* **than this** *(which is restricted to their spouses and female slaves)*, **then such persons are transgressors** *(of the Shari'ah)* **indeed** *(cross the limits of legality).*

وَالَّذِيْنَ هُمْ لِاَمٰنٰتِهِمْ وَعَهْدِهِمْ رٰعُوْنَ ﴿٣٢﴾

32. *(The Mu'mineen who are not like the rest of mankind are)* **Those who give due regard to** *(fulfilling)* **their trusts** *(things placed in their trust)* **and their promises...**

وَالَّذِيْنَ هُمْ بِشَهٰدٰتِهِمْ قَآئِمُوْنَ ﴿٣٣﴾

33. ...who stand firm by their testimony *(they do not allow anything to change their testimony)*...

وَالَّذِيْنَ هُمْ عَلٰى صَلَاتِهِمْ يُحَافِظُوْنَ ﴿٣٤﴾

34. ...and who guard *(the time, condition and method of)* **their salaah** *(ensure that the time and method of performing salaah are correct and they never allow any salaah to pass by unperformed)*.

أُولَٰئِكَ فِي جَنَّاتٍ مُّكْرَمُونَ ﴿٣٥﴾ ع ١ ٧

35. These people shall be honoured in the gardens of Jannah. *(Eight attributes of people of Jannat have been mentioned.)*

فَمَالِ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا قِبَلَكَ مُهْطِعِينَ ﴿٣٦﴾

36. *(Referring to the Mushrikeen who used to form several groups around Rasulullaah ﷺ near the Kabah to mock him as he recited the Qur'aan there, Allaah asks,)* **What is the matter with the Kuffaar that they run towards you** *(O Rasulullaah ﷺ)*...

عَنِ الْيَمِينِ وَعَنِ الشِّمَالِ عِزِينَ ﴿٣٧﴾

37. ...in groups to your right and your left *(to crowd you)*?

أَيَطْمَعُ كُلُّ امْرِئٍ مِّنْهُمْ أَن يُدْخَلَ جَنَّةَ نَعِيمٍ ﴿٣٨﴾

38. Does every one of them desire that he *(rather than the poor Muslims)* **should enter the Jannah of bliss?**

كَلَّا ۖ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاهُم مِّمَّا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٣٩﴾

39. Never! *(This shall never be because only the Mu'mineen shall enter Jannah regardless of their social standing in this world)* **Verily We have created them from what they know.** *(When man knows that Allaah has created him from something as insignificant as a drop of semen, how can he question Allaah's ability to resurrect him on the Day of Qiyaamah?)*

فَلَا أُقْسِمُ بِرَبِّ الْمَشَارِقِ وَالْمَغَارِبِ إِنَّا لَقَادِرُونَ ﴿٤٠﴾

40. I swear by the Rabb of the Easts *(everything in the East)* **and the Wests** *(everything in the West)*! **Indeed We have the power...**

عَلَىٰ أَن نُّبَدِّلَ خَيْرًا مِّنْهُمْ وَمَا نَحْنُ بِمَسْبُوقِينَ ﴿٤١﴾

41. ...to substitute them with people better than them. We certainly have the power *(to do this and anything else We wish to do)*.

فَذَرْهُمْ يَخُوضُوا وَيَلْعَبُوا حَتَّىٰ يُلَاقُوا يَوْمَهُمُ الَّذِي يُوعَدُونَ ﴿٤٢﴾

42. So *(if the Kuffaar refuse to accept Islaam after you have done your best to convince them, then)* **leave them to indulge** *(in their vain pursuits)* **and to frolic** *(play with what they have)* **until they meet their day that they are promised...**

يَوْمَ يَخْرُجُونَ مِنَ الْأَجْدَاثِ سِرَاعًا كَأَنَّهُمْ إِلَىٰ نُصُبٍ يُوفِضُونَ ﴿٤٣﴾

43. ...*(which will be)* **the day** *(of Qiyaamah)* **when they will hurriedly emerge from the graves as if they are rushing towards a temple** *(to worship their idols)*.

خَاشِعَةً أَبْصَارُهُمْ تَرْهَقُهُمْ ذِلَّةٌ ۚ ذَٰلِكَ الْيَوْمُ الَّذِي كَانُوا يُوعَدُونَ ﴿٤٤﴾ ع ٢ ٩ ٨

44. Their gazes will be lowered *(with worry and embarrassment)* **and humiliation** *(disgrace)* **will surround them. This is the day that they had been promised** *(but which they denied)*.